



Press Release

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Girl recovers from a malignant brain tumor after stem cells rebuild her immune system

Cryo-Save Group N.V. (Euronext: CRYO, 'Cryo-Save', or 'the Group'), of Zutphen, The Netherlands, Europe's leading adult stem cell storage bank, today with joy announces the successful treatment of a potentially fatal disease with adult stem cells stored by Cryo-Save.

Alba, a girl from Cadiz in Spain, has recovered from Medulloblastoma, a highly malignant brain tumor after being treated with stem cells from her umbilical cord, which were cryopreserved by Cryo-Save in Niel, Belgium. After surgery and chemotherapy a stem cell transplantation fully rebuilt her immune system. The now four year old girl was treated in the Niño Jesús Hospital in Madrid starting at the age of two. At present she has been declared completely cured and lives a normal life.

Arnoud van Tulder, Cryo-Save's CEO reacts alated on the news.

"I am delighted to hear that Alba has been fully cured and very proud that Cryo-Save was able to participate in her healing process. This is exactly the reason we offer parents the service of storage of their newborns' stem cells."

"This also confirms that cord blood contains excellent stem cells. These cord blood cells are the youngest in the human body, and therefore have a greater potential for medical applications. Recent studies confirm the exponential increase in the use of these stem cells throughout the world. Results obtained in applications for umbilical cord blood stem cells are encouraging in treatments for many diseases, including leukemia, lymphomas, and inborn errors of bone marrow."

"This successful treatment shows our commitment to the well being of our customers and underpins the usefulness of storing your own stem cells, as well as the quality of Cryo-Save's processing and storage procedures."

Dr. Luis Madero, head of the Department of Oncology of The madrid Hospital Niño Jesus, was responsible for the treatment of Alba and her subsequent monitoring.

"This is a unique case in Spain. The use of stem cells to regenerate the blood system is a very long treatment for this type of cancer. What makes this case unique is that, for the first time in our country stem cells used for the treatment came from the baby's umbilical cord blood. In recent years, transplantation of stem cells from umbilical cord blood saw substantial growth. Particularly in the case of siblings, these stem cells are the best treatment option" says Dr. Madero.

Alba's disease and treatment

When Alba was born in 2007, her parents decided to store stem cells from her umbilical cord blood with Cryo-Save. Two years later Alba was diagnosed with a medulloblastoma, a very rare highly malignant primary tumor in the central nervous system.

The healing process for medulloblastoma began with surgery to remove most of the brain tumor. Following this surgery, Alba was treated with chemotherapy to reduce the residual tumor, and eliminate the remaining cancer cells. Chemotherapy though not only destroys cancer cells, but also the patient's blood and immune system. That is why Alba's immune system needed to be rebuilt with a stem cell transplant.

The transplant was performed using stem cells from Alba's umbilical cord, which were released by Cryo-Save's main storage facility in Belgium to the treating physician of the Madrid hospital. After the transplant, the stem cells migrated to the bone marrow, where they start producing white blood cells, red blood cells and platelets, thus starting the regeneration of the blood system. Then, after 60 days from transplanting, new stem cells were transplanted, this time from the peripheral blood of Alba in order to accelerate the platelet system. Fourteen months after transplantation, the child had completely rebuilt her blood system and started to enjoy a normal life, despite the necessary periodic medical checks.

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Free footage is available on www.videobankonline.com.

About Cryo-Cord

Cryo-Cord is a pioneer in Spain for the storage of stem cells from umbilical cord blood. The first unit was frozen in June 2004 and since then, it 's leader in the market. Currently, over 35,000 families have entrusted the preservation Cryo-Cord Blood from the umbilical cord. Also in 2009, is also a pioneer in the supply of conservation of stem cells from umbilical cord tissue.

Cryo-Cord was born with a very clear idea as a fundamental value of society, stem cells in cord blood of our children are a biological treasure of inestimable value that must always be preserved, both as a gift to a public bank or a private family bank.

Cryo-Cord is a company of Cryo-Save Group, which has a presence in over 40 countries with 5 banks themselves (Holland, Belgium, Germany, India and Dubai), with the accumulated experience of more than 150,000 units across Europe. It recently opened a plant of 5,000 m2 in Belgium with a capacity of 1,000,000 samples. It 's the first European company to preserve umbilical cord stem cells and the 4th in the world. It's the only one European Union entitled to establish protocols for the preservation of umbilical cord blood within the Sixth EU Framework Programme. So far, 13 transplants have been successfully made with the units preserved in the Cryo-Save bank.